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New Books

INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AND HAGUE CONFERENCES. By T. J. Lawrence, M. A., LL. D., Lecturer in International Law at the Royal Naval War College. London: J. M. Dent & Co. Cloth. 210 pages.

Dr. Lawrence is a writer who, besides stating what international law is, suggests remedies for its defects. In his "International Problems and Hague Conferences" he not only shows that there is a real society of nations, which is organized through a world congress and court, but, from the point of view of an expert, deals with the present customs of warfare, which he desires to see made as humane as possible. He is well qualified to speak of maritime war because of his position as lecturer in the British Naval War College, a position which throws him in contact with officers who have seen service, and which puts him in the way of observing the naval policies of the various nations. To the commercial and shipping classes he sounds an unmistakable note of alarm. They, in his opinion, are sleeping in the false security of a fool's paradise. They were never in so great peril in the barbarous era of Napoleon as they are to-day. Their situation is due chiefly to the changed conditions of ocean transportation, which make search and seizure on the high seas both costly and irksome to neutrals, to the needlessly inclusive definitions of contraband, which go far beyond the munitions of war, to the destruction of neutral prizes at sea without compensation, and to the reckless use of mines which is contemplated by some of the powers. Prize law may be reformed and codified, as he explains, by the conference on the new international prize court, which has been called to meet in London this autumn, but a more carefully restricted use of mines requires the action of another Hague Conference. It has been known that prize law was in an uncertain state, but it was generally supposed that the Hague Conference had made mines harmful only to belligerents. That such is not the case, however, is shown by the keen analysis of the Hague convention on mines by Dr. Lawrence, which is supported by information that to him is sufficient ground for grave suspicion and concern. Some powers contemplate using mines instead of ships to maintain blockade, or to send a vessel back and forth before a blockaded harbor, towing a long cable with mines attached to it, against which an incoming or outgoing vessel may strike and be destroyed before the ship at the end of the cable can give adequate warning of danger. Owing to loopholes in the Hague convention it is possible, though it was expressly stated that mines should not be laid purposely to injure commerce, for one belligerent to lay mines in its own harbor to keep the enemy out and for the enemy to lay them outside the harbor to keep his adversary in. In such cases how can innocent commerce, ocean liners with their passengers, women and children, approaching a harbor at night, be prevented from receiving injury or being sent to the bottom? On which of the two powers at war will it be possible to fix the responsibility for damage and destruction? Dr. Lawrence proposes a world-wide agitation on the part of churches, peace societies, philanthropic associations and commercial organizations, for the purpose of preventing the realization of these threatened evils. He also asks

why in the future naval warfare should not be confined to the territorial waters of belligerents and the high seas left as safe and free as the public streets of a city.

Dr. Lawrence's book is written in a popular style; indeed, hardly any writer has done so much to popularize the study of international law and make its international problems clear to the public mind as he has done. His "War and Neutrality in the Far East" went through its first edition in a month after its appearance, but this new work ought to interest a still larger circle of readers. It ought especially to be in the library of every Board of Trade.

INTERNATIONAL LAW AND DIPLOMACY OF THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR. By Elbert J. Benton, Ph. D., Assistant Professor of History in Western Reserve University. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1908. Cloth. 300 pages. Price, \$1.50.

The impression has steadily gained ground since 1898 that the Spanish-American war, with its cost in life and money, might have been avoided, and the desired reforms in Cuba peacefully obtained, if, instead of appealing to arms, the United States had only let Minister Woodford go on with the negotiations which he had so well begun and which promised ultimate success. That resort to war was premature and needless is shown by Professor Benton's book. The author quotes freely from the official correspondence that passed between the two countries and between the American administration and Congress. He goes into all the facts relating to the situation for three years preceding the outbreak of hostilities, giving the proposals of the United States and the answers of Spain with regard to the treatment of Cuba. It appears that the Spanish government was ready to concede practically everything that President McKinley demanded, even offering to arbitrate in the matter of the sinking of the

In dealing with the legal questions that arose in the war, Professor Benton takes for titles to his chapters, "Transition from Neutrality to Belligerency," "Relations with Belligerents," and "Relations between Belligerents and Neutrals," in which he summarizes the decisions of prize-court cases, comments on the changes made in customs of land and naval war, due to modern conditions, and compares the several national codes of neutrality which were proclaimed at that time. He relates the story of the negotiations entered into after the war closed, and interprets the meaning of the final treaty of peace between Spain and the United States. The book is a scholarly piece of work of the order of Takahashi's "International Law during the Chino-Japanese War," and of Baty's "International Law in South Africa," which have set a new fashion in the study of international law by taking up the subject from the point of view of a single war, instead of dealing with it from the standpoint of universal history.

INTERNATIONAL LAW IN SOUTH AFRICA. By T. Baty, author of "First Elements of Procedure" and "The Laws of Law." London: Stevens and Haynes. Cloth. 127 pages.

Dr. Baty's book is a study in the application of international law to a special event, the South African war.

It is therefore limited to questions that came up in that contest. It was originally prepared as a course of lectures for Oxford. To fully appreciate it one must have mastered many elementary principles and have found an interest in the topics which the author considers. They are, "Contraband for Neutral Ports," "The Suzerainty," "Passage of Troops over Neutral Territory," "Conduct of Warfare," and "Limited Companies in the War." The book also has an appendix containing a summary of the "Transvaal Conventions of 1881 and 1884" in parallel columns. The method of the author, as shown in his chapter on "Contraband for Neutral Ports," is to give his reader a clear historical foundation by citing cases and rulings. After having carefully prepared his reader's mind for the question, he treats it briefly, in argument confining himself to the chief points at issue. In dealing with contraband, which has now become an important subject in international law conferences, he gives the views of such men as Von Bar and Lorimer, who proposed that contraband be given up because of the injustices it occasions both to neutrals and to belligerents. Although Dr. Baty wrote in 1900, he anticipated developments in thought which took shape in the second Hague Conference, and have, since its adjournment, received support. In order to make neutrality more strict than it ever has been, or ever can be, now that the commerce of the nations is so interdependent, the powers that have had war since the Declaration of Paris in 1856, which was intended to protect neutrals, have occasioned great dissatisfaction which must result in radical changes in maritime warfare. As Dr. Baty points out, it is not easy to say what the recoil will bring. "Possibly," to use his own words, "the prohibition of fighting on the world's highway; probably the absolute security of the neutral flag at sea." Both these changes are most certainly to be desired.

MANUAL OF AMERICAN HISTORY, DIPLOMACY AND GOVERNMENT. For class use. By Albert Bushnell Hart, Professor of American History in Harvard University. Cambridge: Published by Harvard University. 1908. Cloth. 554 pages.

Dr. Hart has long been noted for his command of historical references. It is doubtful if any American scholar has ever surpassed him in this field. His course in Harvard has always been supplied with printed outlines and lists of authorities. This book is a revision of these, combined with the results suggested by his twenty-five years of teaching and writing. Every division of his subjects—history, diplomacy and government—is laid out in courses for topical study, with references to chapter and page. Here and there are short bibliographies, with brief comments on the value of the leading books mentioned. While the manual is intended for students in historical courses given at Harvard, just as the old outlines used to be, it serves the larger purpose of teachers who have classes of their own in schools outside the University, or of lecturers or writers who, though not in need of a course of study, want the best references to the variety of topics with which they wish to deal. The book is brought down to date. The historical portion takes up the Civil War, reconstruction and the recent administrations, as well as the earlier

periods. In the section relating to government it takes up almost every important present-day question, including municipal government, tariff, transportation, crime, charity, religious liberty, suffrage and referendum. In the department of diplomacy it covers such subjects as "The Spanish-American War," "Intervention with China," the "Drago Doctrine," and the Pan-American Conference.

TYPES OF MEN AND WOMEN, AS STUDIED THROUGH IDEALITY. By Mary McArthur Tuttle. Hillsboro, O.

One hardly knows whether to call this little volume a story of travel or a series of essays in story guise. It is really both. It is in some respects very much like all stories of travel, where the characters indulge in all sorts of racy reflections on the places visited, the people met, etc. But it is pitched in a much higher, more refined tone than most of them. The thinking and speaking, though of the common, easy type found in intimate circles, are free from the hot, mawkish, often vulgar sentimentalism so prevalent in modern books of travel. They are chaste, elevated, humanitarian, and touched nearly everywhere with a glow of true idealism. The writer makes it clear in various indirect ways that she is in deep sympathy with the most advanced thought on the subject of the peace of the world. The quiet vein of love which runs through the incidents is pure, unaffected and healthful, and one is not compelled to think constantly of the divorce court as the aftermath. Mrs. Tuttle's style is pure, simple and direct, and her insight into men and things excellent. But good as the work is, one feels continually that the author could do better. The great lines are finely drawn, but one feels here and there the want of "filling." There is plenty of ground covered in the story to make a volume half as large again without overworking the situations.

NATIONAL AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS. By Frederic Harrison. New York: The Macmillan Company. 450 pages. Price \$1.75.

The seventeen essays which make up this volume are among the strongest and most characteristic of the many utterances of Mr. Harrison during the past generation and more. Those who are acquainted with his writings know that he always wields an independent, powerful and trenchant pen, and that he writes from the moral and humane point of view. He himself has collected and reëdited in this work a few of the essays which he published on various national and social questions during his more active life. The collection, therefore, is peculiarly valuable from a historical point of view, as the questions treated were all of the most immediate practical importance. He calls the book an appeal to international morality and a plea for social regeneration, in the interests of both of which he has been a potent influence in England. The four essays on the Franco-Prussian war and what followed are extremely interesting and instructive reading. So are the three on the making of Italy. In nearly all of the eleven essays in the first part of the work, especially those on Egypt, Afghanistan, the Boer War, Empire and Humanity, he exposes the hollowness and wickedness of imperialism and of conquest by terrorism, which "hardens our politicians and degrades our churches."